

# **State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Public Safety Alaska Bureau of Investigation Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Alaska Bureau of Investigation****Contribution to Department's Mission**

Preserve public peace, protect life, property, and resources.

**Core Services**

The Alaska Bureau of Investigation (ABI) component is comprised of the Computer and Financial Crimes Unit, the Child Abuse Investigations Unit, the Wildlife Investigations Unit, the Missing Persons Unit, the Cold Case Investigation Unit, and regional investigation units in Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Soldotna, and Anchorage. The purpose of these units is to develop and deploy expertise necessary to effectively investigate serious crimes including homicide, sexual assault, criminal use of computers, wildlife crimes, property crimes, and child physical and sexual abuse. While units are distributed across the state, ABI acts as an integrated body, with investigators assigned to cases regardless of where they normally report to work. This approach leverages the expertise that may exist in one location to enhance investigations anywhere. These units provide the following services:

Assist federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies requiring specialized investigators and/or techniques.

- Investigate suspicious unattended deaths and homicides.
- Investigate serious felony assaults.
- Document and disseminate information regarding homicides.
- Investigate sexual assault and child exploitation.
- Investigate burglary and other complex property crimes.
- Investigate serious wildlife offenses including illegal guiding.
- Maintain state and national databases that document homicides and missing persons.
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**COMPUTER AND FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT (C&FCU):**

The Computer and Financial Crimes Unit routinely conducts investigations in conjunction with the Department of Law's Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals, district attorneys' offices throughout the state, and with various federal agencies such as the IRS, FBI, the U.S. Postal Service, the U.S. Secret Service, and U.S. Attorney's Office. The use of computers to perpetrate, foster, and conceal criminal conduct has become a reality. In addition to online activity, the Computer and Financial Crimes Unit has the capacity to forensically analyze computers to document the possession and/or distribution of child pornography. The Computer and Financial Crimes Unit applies high technology in its forensic analysis of electronic evidence seized from computers and other data storage devices. The unit also investigates high-value financial crimes, regardless of whether they were computer-facilitated.

**CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (CAIU):**

The Child Abuse Investigations Unit focuses on cases of sexual and/or serious physical abuse cases. This unit works closely with the Office of Children's Services, The Children's Place, and assigned personnel from the district attorney's office in the coordination of criminal investigations involving children. Under the parameters of current Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) protocols, the CAIU is primary to the effective investigation of child sexual/physical abuse cases. The CAIU, in combination with the C&FCU, work closely in the investigation of child pornography, which directly relates to many cases involving child sexual abuse.

**WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT:**

The Wildlife Investigations Unit (WIU) is responsible for investigation of complex or high value commercial fishery crimes, and for large scale or ongoing hunting and guiding violations. WIU primarily assists the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement (ABWE) by taking over cases, or by providing expertise and sophisticated equipment to ABWE troopers. WIU conducts covert undercover investigations to substantiate hunting/guiding violations throughout the state and provides statewide support in any region where investigative support is required. The WIU works closely with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, federal prosecutors, similar agencies from other states, and the Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals in the conduct of these investigations.

**COLD CASE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT:**

Since 1961, there have been 101 unresolved homicide cases within AST's jurisdiction. Recognizing that many of these cases are extremely complex and investigation or review of these cases is time consuming, the department initiated a program of hiring experienced investigators to work these 'cold' cases. Members of the Cold Case Investigation Unit work closely with state prosecutors and with police agencies in other states to pursue homicide investigations. In addition, these highly experienced and capable investigators act as a ready resource for mentoring less experienced personnel, conducting case reviews, and for providing investigative input for current complex investigations.

**REGIONAL UNITS:**

The Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Soldotna, and Anchorage units are responsible for the investigation of homicides, sexual assaults, sexual abuse of a minor cases, and other serious crimes against person(s) statewide. In addition, units in Fairbanks, Mat-Su, and Soldotna each have dedicated property crimes investigators who focus on solving complex cases involving organized groups and high value losses. In the Mat-Su region, a specialized Child Abuse Investigation Unit handles nearly all serious crimes against children and has been shown highly effective in the coordination and resolution of these crimes. These units are the backbone of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation, handling calls for assistance from nearly every law enforcement entity within Alaska in addition to the investigative efforts initiated by the team members themselves. Personnel from any unit are subject to temporary deployment anywhere in the state to meet the needs of the bureau.

The regional investigative units also:

- Provide individuals trained to serve as crisis negotiators.
- Provide personnel to staff the Special Emergency Reaction Teams (S.E.R.T.)
- Coordinate the availability of polygraph examiners to assist state troopers and other Alaska law enforcement agencies in conducting criminal specific examinations, as well as conducting pre-employment examinations for DPS applicants.
- Provide on-site statewide support with major investigations, follow-up interviews, and autopsies (Anchorage only).

**MISSING PERSONS SECTION:**

The Missing Persons section is a sub-section of the Anchorage unit that tracks the disappearance of juveniles and adults. This unit also manages several computer-assisted programs that aid in the centralization of missing persons clearinghouse information and serve as a repository for information regarding unidentified human remains.

The Missing Persons section also manages the statutorily required Alaska Homicide Registry and coordinates with the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP) to provide Alaska-specific data for federal reports.

FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results		
<b>FY2008 Component Budget: \$6,185,200</b>	<b>Personnel:</b>	
	Full time	45
	Part time	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>

**Key Component Challenges**

The Alaska Bureau of Investigation is challenged by the vast number of locations to which it must respond, and further challenged by the evolution of forensic investigative techniques. While ABI primarily supports AST units, one of the primary missions of ABI is to support all agencies across the state. Travel to many locations can be difficult and time consuming. Investigations are more difficult in terms of management and operations the farther investigators are from sources of additional expertise and resources. Responses to distant crime scenes are facilitated by use of state or

commercial aircraft, which requires personnel to be ready and available for deployment on short notice and with pre-designated criminal investigation kits. Technical issues are partially managed by using digital photography and audio recordings, which can be transmitted via Internet and examined by additional investigators who are hundreds of miles away.

Enhancement of professional expertise is hampered by the fact that investigators are fully engaged with casework all of the time. Time invested in training drains potential investigative ability resulting in a backlog that investigators face when they return. Furthermore, most of the sophisticated training provided by larger police agencies or vendors is provided at out-of-state locations. ABI has embarked on a program to train skilled instructors to take over this training load. The expectation is that as senior investigators develop expertise through experience or sophisticated training, they pass it along to more junior investigators, or to peers who will benefit from cross training in multiple disciplines.

## Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

In FY2005, the Alaska State Troopers received a federal grant for Crime Scene Examination Enhancement. The grant is for \$221,000 to be implemented over a three-year period. The grant is allowing the Alaska Bureau of Investigation to:

- Increase from one to five ABI investigators qualified as multi-discipline crime scene experts through attendance of the National Forensic Academy (NFA) and through increased exposure to crime scene analysis.
- Increase from one to five, personnel trained in forensic computer analysis with forensic equipment and personnel stationed at each ABI location.
- Provide state of the art forensic computer examination equipment to each investigator qualified to conduct forensic computer examinations.
- Provide comprehensive crime scene investigation training with state of the art crime scene equipment including portable forensic light sources and reactive agents.
- Provide entry and mid-level crime scene investigation training to select uniformed members of the Alaska State Troopers and to select members of municipal police departments.
- Continue to develop court designated experts within ABI in (at least) the following disciplines: 1) crime scene reconstruction; 2) blood evidence analysis; 3) latent fingerprint and other impressions; 4) computerized scene mapping and 3-D presentations; 5) digital still and video photography.
- Continue to conduct joint training with members of the Alaska State Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory to enhance laboratory technicians' skills and to provide hands-on training for ABI investigators. In FY2007, crime laboratory and ABI personnel conducted joint training in digital forensic photography and scene investigation.
- Equip each ABI unit with high quality surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment and comprehensive training in how to best use the equipment to the greatest capacity.
- Provide selected ABI investigators with highly sophisticated interview and interrogation training that supports crime scene investigations.

## Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

The nationwide clearance rate for homicides is 62.1 percent as cited in the U.S. Department of Justice's *2005 Uniform Crime Report*. ABI and the other state trooper detachments have (combined) the following homicide clearance rates by fiscal year. (Note: The following statistics are based on fiscal year as opposed to the calendar year statistics presented in the Investing for Results section.)

FY1999	23 homicides with 21 resolved or 91 percent clearance.
FY2000	14 homicides with 13 resolved or 93 percent clearance.
FY2001	13 homicides with 13 resolved or 100 percent clearance.
FY2002	14 homicides with 13 resolved or 93 percent clearance.
FY2003	10 homicides with 10 resolved or 100 percent clearance.
FY2004	15 homicides with 15 resolved or 100 percent clearance.
FY2005	12 homicides with 12 resolved or 100 percent clearance.
FY2006	8 homicides with 7 resolved or 87 percent clearance.

In addition, ABI provided direct support to homicide/death investigations in Kotzebue, Kake, and Saint Michael that led to rapid case resolution. Defendants either have been arrested or are pending indictment in these cases. The Alaska Bureau of Investigation provides expertise, consultation, and technical support to all AST detachments and municipal agencies as requested.

Examples of the scope of ABI's commitment to assist outside law enforcement include the investigation of two officer involved shooting cases, investigation of two official misconduct cases, coordination and investigation of a potential school terrorism/violence case, as well as multiple miscellaneous criminal investigations.

Within the organization, ABI personnel have responded to and assisted with investigations in many areas to include Kotzebue, Klawock, Ketchikan, Dillingham, Seward, Juneau, McCarthy, and Hooper Bay.

The Alaska Bureau of Investigation has fully staffed property crimes units in Palmer, Fairbanks, and Soldotna. Property crimes personnel assist with a variety of criminal investigations including thefts and burglaries and coordinate pawnshop inspections within their areas. In FY2006, property crimes investigators recovered over \$200,000 in stolen property, solving numerous burglary/theft cases that originated both with AST and outside agencies.

The WIU conducted an undercover operation in Southeast Alaska that resulted in arrests for illegal guiding and multiple hunting violations. The WIU also assisted ABWE troopers in Anchorage with a sheep poaching case building a viable case against the defendants. WIU personnel responded to St. Mary's to assist ABWE in monitoring a winter hunt program that decreased violations through deterrence and resulted in increased enforcement efforts. In addition, the WIU conducted multiple sport fishing guide investigations and provided expertise and assistance to ABWE programs.

Cold Case investigators presented two cases at trial in FY2006. One resulted in a conviction for the 1985 murder of an elderly woman in Soldotna. In addition, indictments and arrests were issued in two cases with the unit actively focusing on five additional cases with sixteen viable cases pending.

In FY2006, the Missing Persons section added 3,149 missing person notices to the statutorily required Missing Persons Clearinghouse used to assist law enforcement when unidentified human remains are found.

Final component accomplishments include the establishing of minimum training standards/curriculum and training the majority of ABI personnel to meet these standards. Core courses include forensic child interview; interview and interrogation; sexual assault investigation; forensic digital photography, and DNA/evidence collection.

## **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

DPS - Powers and duties of department (AS 44.41.020)  
State Troopers (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.110)  
Police Protection (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.790)  
Law enforcement duties (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.086)  
Controlled Substances (AS 11.71.010 - AS 11.71.900)  
Judicial Services (AS 22.20.100 - AS 22.20.140)  
Prisoner Transportation (AS 33.30.071 and AS 33.30.081)  
Search & Rescue (AS 18.60.120 - AS 18.60.175)  
Village Public Safety Officer Definition (AS 01.10.060(c)(7)(C))  
VPSO Program (AS 18.65.670)  
VPSO Regulations (13 AAC 96.010-900)  
Concealed Handgun Permits (AS 18.65.700)  
Security Guard Licensing (AS 18.65.400 - AS 18.65.410)  
Sex Offender Registration (AS 12.63.010 - AS 12.63.100)  
Central Registry of Sex Offenders (AS 18.65.087)  
Department to assist other agencies (AS 18.65.090)  
Document and disseminate information regarding homicides (AS 44.41.040)  
Document and investigate missing persons (AS 18.65.610)  
Investigate fires resulting from crimes (AS 18.70.030)  
Investigate sexual assault and child exploitation (AS 18.65.086)  
Aeronautics (AS 02)  
Criminal (AS 11)  
Environment (AS 46)  
Fish & Game (AS 16)  
Fish & Game (5 AAC)  
Guide/Outfitting (12 AAC)  
Guide/Outfitting (AS 08)  
Health & Safety (AS 18)

Limited Entry (20 AAC)  
State Government (AS 44)

Contact Information
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# Alaska Bureau of Investigation Component Financial Summary

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	3,574.6	4,437.6	5,201.0
72000 Travel	94.0	152.9	152.9
73000 Services	593.6	751.2	751.2
74000 Commodities	35.0	78.4	78.4
75000 Capital Outlay	149.3	1.7	1.7
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>4,446.5</b>	<b>5,421.8</b>	<b>6,185.2</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	4,446.5	5,421.8	6,185.2
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>4,446.5</b>	<b>5,421.8</b>	<b>6,185.2</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2007 Management Plan</b>	<b>5,421.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5,421.8</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-FY 08 Wage and Health Insurance Increases for Troopers and Airport Security	109.2	0.0	0.0	109.2
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	654.2	0.0	0.0	654.2
<b>FY2008 Governor</b>	<b>6,185.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>6,185.2</b>



**Alaska Bureau of Investigation  
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2007</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	45	45	Annual Salaries	2,644,138
Part-time	0	0	COLA	123,818
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay	403,911
			Annual Benefits	2,318,498
			<i>Less 5.29% Vacancy Factor</i>	(290,365)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	1,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>5,201,000</b>

**Position Classification Summary**

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Clerk II	2	0	0	0	2
Administrative Clerk III	3	1	0	2	6
Administrative Supervisor	1	0	0	0	1
Captain, AK State Troopers	1	0	0	0	1
Lieutenant, AK State Troopers	1	0	0	0	1
Sergeant PS	3	1	0	2	6
State Trooper	8	7	0	13	28
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>45</b>